

## POETRY.

By IDA ARNOLD MILLER.  
 I stood in the moonlight  
 Looking up to the sky  
 At the white-robed clouds  
 As they floated by.  
 And I dreamed a dream  
 As I stood there,  
 Of distant worlds  
 Unseen, but fair.  
 And it seemed to me  
 I could see a throng  
 Of white-robed angels  
 moving along.  
 And they beckoned to me  
 To join their band  
 And go with them  
 To that distant land.  
 But my soul was bound  
 In a prison of clay,  
 And their kindly call  
 I could not obey.  
 Then they floated away  
 With faces so bright,  
 Higher, and higher  
 Till they left my sight.  
 But I could hear  
 Their heavenly song  
 As far, far above me,  
 They floated along.  
 Oh, white-winged angels,  
 You gave to me  
 One happy glimpse  
 Of eternity.  
 As I stood in the moonlight,  
 That bright night,  
 And watched you soaring  
 Out of my sight.  
 And I will so joyful  
 And happy be,  
 When God opens the bars  
 And sets my soul free.  
 So it can soar  
 With you, far away  
 To those beatiful worlds  
 That are brighter than day.

## REVERIE.

One year ago to-day we came here to take charge again of the Berlin pastorate and to labor for the Lord. What have we accomplished? If we could see into God's great register I am afraid we would see many neglected opportunities. And still God has been very good to us. We have enjoyed good health, and our brethren and friends have treated us very kindly. Substantially, liberally giving us a valuable general donation, and from the Summit Mills congregation came a much appreciated new over-coat, from Maple Grove a beautiful new carpet, all wool and more than a yard wide, from Berlin a Christmas cash envelope for a new suit of clothes, and from the efforts of a small boy, Master John Weyand, a splendid wash machine. Our stipulated support has been fairly paid up, for all of which we say, many thanks. God bless you dear brethren, for your kindness, co operation and labors of love.

What have we done as pastor in the year now past? Preached three sermons and traveled over mountain and vale, twenty miles, on an average

every Sunday in the year, held and conducted six love feasts, baptized nine converts, conducted the services at five funerals, solomized four marriages, made over two hundred pastoral visits and calls, regularly attended the week day prayer-meeting, and the Sunday school whenever it was possible also attended the sessions of our national and state conferences.

What is in store for us for the future? God only knows. But the beginning of 1895 finds us in love and harmony and in good shape for aggressive work all along the line. Brethren of the old Berlin charge, what will we individually and collectively do for Christ and his church? Let us "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Laboring earnestly for each other and all for God, doing our part well, leaving results to him, we have before us a glorious future.

JOHN H. KNEPPER.

Berlin, Pa., Jan. 1895.

## FROM CLAYPOOL, IND.

DEAR EVANGELIST READERS:—The class at Claypool is in a progressing way. We held our quarterly business meeting last Thursday, we had a good meeting. Everything went off peaceable. The spirit of God prevailed. We are now under the constitution of the Brethren church. All laws contrary to the constitution have been reconsidered and we have decided to be Brethren. Our S. S. has been organized again. Next Sunday we can meet in our new church for the first time to study a Sabbath school lesson. J. W. Shoemaker was elected to be our superintendent.

Rev. D. A. Hopkins is our pastor. He has given us some excellent sermons, and we still expect to hear more of the same kind. Pray for our little band at Claypool.

MISS MAUDE MINEAR,  
 Cor. Sec.

## ORVILLE, OHIO.

DEAR EDITOR:—We may be strangers in the flesh, but I trust not in spirit. So I thought I would pen a few lines that we might get better acquainted with each other. I am not certain when my subscription expires, but I think it expired with the old year. We have no agent here among our little band of members. I have been acting as such on my own expense, simply because I am interested in the welfare, both of the church and Publishing house. Now if you desire me to act as agent I will do so and try and hold all the old subscribers, and get at least a few more if I can. I am well pleased with the EVANGELIST, would not like to do without it. Excuse my long letter. I will close by wishing you success in your work. Has Bro. McFaden his tracts out already, if so I would like to have prices on same, as I wish to distribute some, I remain your humble brother.

D. L. KING.

## INFLUENCE OF BOOKS.

A Puritan divine named Sibbs wrote a booklet called "The Bruised Reed." A copy of this was given by a humble layman to a little boy at whose father's house he had been entertained over night. That boy was Richard Baxter, and the book was the means of his conversion. Baxter wrote his "Call to the Unconverted," and among the multitudes led to Christ by it was Philip Doddridge. Doddridge wrote the "Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul," and "the time would fail us to tell" its blessed influence. By it Wilberforce was converted, and by his life and labors volumes could be written. Wilberforce wrote his "Practical View of Christianity," and this led not only Dr. Chalmers into the truth, but Leigh Richmond to Christ. Richmond wrote "The Dairyman's Daughter," which has been published in a hundred languages and over five million copies have been sold. Carey's compassion for benighted men was first awakened by reading Cook's "Voyage Around the world." Buchanan's "Star of the East" led Judson to be a missionary, and untold has been the influence of the apostle of Burma in heathen lands and at home. Some one has said, "The debt of literature to Christ is that of vegetation to light," and so we may say that all helpful and religious books derive their potency from the Book of books, the Holy Bible, which is able to make us wise unto salvation.—Rev. John Gordon.

## Our Dead.

MEISER.—Died near Sherwood, Ohio. Sister Julia A., wife of Bro. Wm. P. Meiser. Born Sept. 11, 1841. Died Dec. 31, 1894. Aged 53 years 2 mo. and 20 days.

The bereaved husband and six children mourn her loss while the youngest having preceeded her across the cold river of death.

It is hard to give up this bosom friend and have the trial of saying "what is home without a mother." Funeral services were held in the Fair View church by the writer.

P. M. SWINEHART.

HOFFMAN.—In the North Georgetown church, Sister Phoebe Hoffman was born Dec. 30th, 1850, died Dec. 22nd, 1894, aged 43 years, 11 months and 22 days.

She leaves a husband, three daughters and one son, also one step-

daughter and three sons, besides an aged father, one brother and two sisters to mourn their loss. When Brother I. D. Bowman organized this church in Oct., 1892, Sister Hoffman was among the first to consecrate herself to the Master. She was a faithful member; the community lost a kind friend, the church a true member, the family a devoted wife and mother. She was laid to rest in the North Georgetown cemetery on the 24th. Brother Kimmel officiating.

G. A. RUFF, Cor. Sec.

SILLIMAN.—Died at Bryan, Ohio Dec. 14th, 1894, Enid Gertrude Silliman, daughter of O. J. and Sister Ermie Silliman. Aged 2 years, 1 month and 14 days. Funeral services by the writer, in the Brethren church. Little Enid had not gotten far along life's journey ere the finger of God touched her soul and it obeyed. Her remains were laid away in the Fountain City Cemetery one mile south of the city.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved parents, so early weighed down by death—that unwelcome guest.

P. M. SWINEHART.

SHULTZ.—In the Meyersdale congregation, Meyersdale, Pa., Dec. 29, 1894, Sister Mary Matilda Shultz. Aged 33 years, 10 months and 21 days. The departed sister leaves a husband and five small children, the one a babe of a few days, to mourn their great loss. Funeral services conducted by the writer, to a large congregation of sympathizing neighbors and friends. May God's blessing rest upon Brother Shultz and his family of little ones, is our prayer.

JOHN H. KNEPPER.

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